



Coalition for a Sustainable Delta

November 2, 2022

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Michael Patrick George
Delta Watermaster
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
michael.george@waterboards.ca.gov

Re: Comments on Draft Report re Complaints of Unlawful Diversions

Dear Mr. George,

Thank you for sharing the latest draft report regarding your investigation into the complaints of unlawful diversions within the Legal Delta. From your report, it is clear that there is a significant lack of information. We note, however, that under Water Code section 85230, subdivision (b), the Delta Watermaster does have the delegated authority "to require monitoring and reporting," and it is our belief that requiring such monitoring and reporting from in-Delta diverters would go a long way toward filling the information gap identified in the draft report. For example, we believe it would be appropriate for the Delta Watermaster to require in-Delta diverters who are claiming a legal right under a license or contract to report the location of the diversion, the amount of the diversion, and the time of the diversion. If you believe for any reason that the Delta Watermaster lacks this authority, we think it would be appropriate for the State Water Resources Control Board to impose this requirement on in-Delta diverters directly.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

William D. Phillimore

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*The Coalition for a Sustainable Delta is an ad hoc group of water users who depend on the delta for a large portion of their water supplies.
The Coalition is dedicated to protecting the delta and is committed to promoting a strategy to ensure its sustainability.*

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